

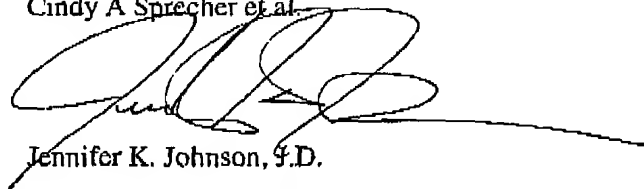
REMARKS

Claims 32, 33, 36, 37, 48-52, and 61-75, are pending in the instant application. The amendments made in Applicant's response mailed January 28, 2004, cancelled withdrawn claims 1-24, 38-47, and 53-60, as well as claims 32, 33, and 52. In addition, with this supplemental amendment, claim 36 and 73 were cancelled without prejudice to the prosecution of the subject matter thereof in a subsequent application. In addition, claims 37 and 72 were rewritten in independent format, and dependent claim 51 was amended, so as to no longer depend from a canceled claim. In addition, claims 49, 51, 62, 64, 66 (see, deletion of comma in line 3), 68, 70 (see, deletion of comma in line 3), and 72-75 were further amended to clarify the claims, and the deleted subject matter relating to antagonizing the ligand was provided in newly added dependent claims 76-78 to provide claims commensurate with the scope of the invention. Similarly, claims 79 and 80 were added to encompass dependent claims relating to antagonizing the ligand within the scope of the invention. Dependent claims 81-84, ultimately depending from claim 72, were added to encompass additional embodiments of the invention. The amendments to the claims are supported throughout the specification, Examples, and by the original claims. No new matter was added by these amendments. Applicant believes the case is in condition for allowance.

Early reconsideration and allowance of the pending claims is respectfully requested. If the Patent Examiner believes that a telephone interview would expedite prosecution of this patent application, please call the undersigned at (206) 442-6676.

Respectfully Submitted,

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